

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS

For Period Ending 2/27/83

Issue: 03-83

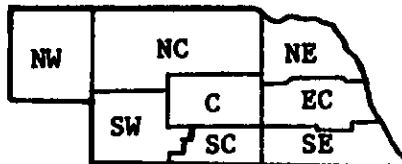
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WEATHER

It was a very mild week with average temperatures ranging from 10 to 15 degrees above normal. Rainfall was very scattered and light ranging from mostly traces to a few hundredths of an inch.

GENERAL

February began with below normal temperatures and heavy snowfall over the southeastern third of the State. However, unseasonably warm conditions existed during the last three weeks of the month as temperatures averaged 11 degrees above normal. At the end of the month, snow cover was limited to ditches and protected areas in the eastern half of the state. The winter wheat crop was greening up over the eastern half of the state as well as some western areas. Warm conditions are reported to be causing storage problems with some grains high in moisture. Moisture supplies were adequate for the start of the spring season, with many eastern counties reporting saturated soil profiles. Tillage operations have been very limited so far this year.

Farmers and ranchers have been busy with income tax preparation, farm sales, machinery repairs, ordering of supplies, and final decisions concerning the PIK farm program options.

CROPS

Winter wheat conditions rated 5% fair, 94% good, and 1% excellent. This continues just above last year's rating and well above two years ago. Topsoil moisture is needed in western counties, although subsoil supplies are adequate. Poorest conditions are currently in the central and eastern areas. Excessive moisture and ice in low-lying areas have caused some wheat to deteriorate in some eastern counties. However, winter kill appears at this point to be light.

LIVESTOCK

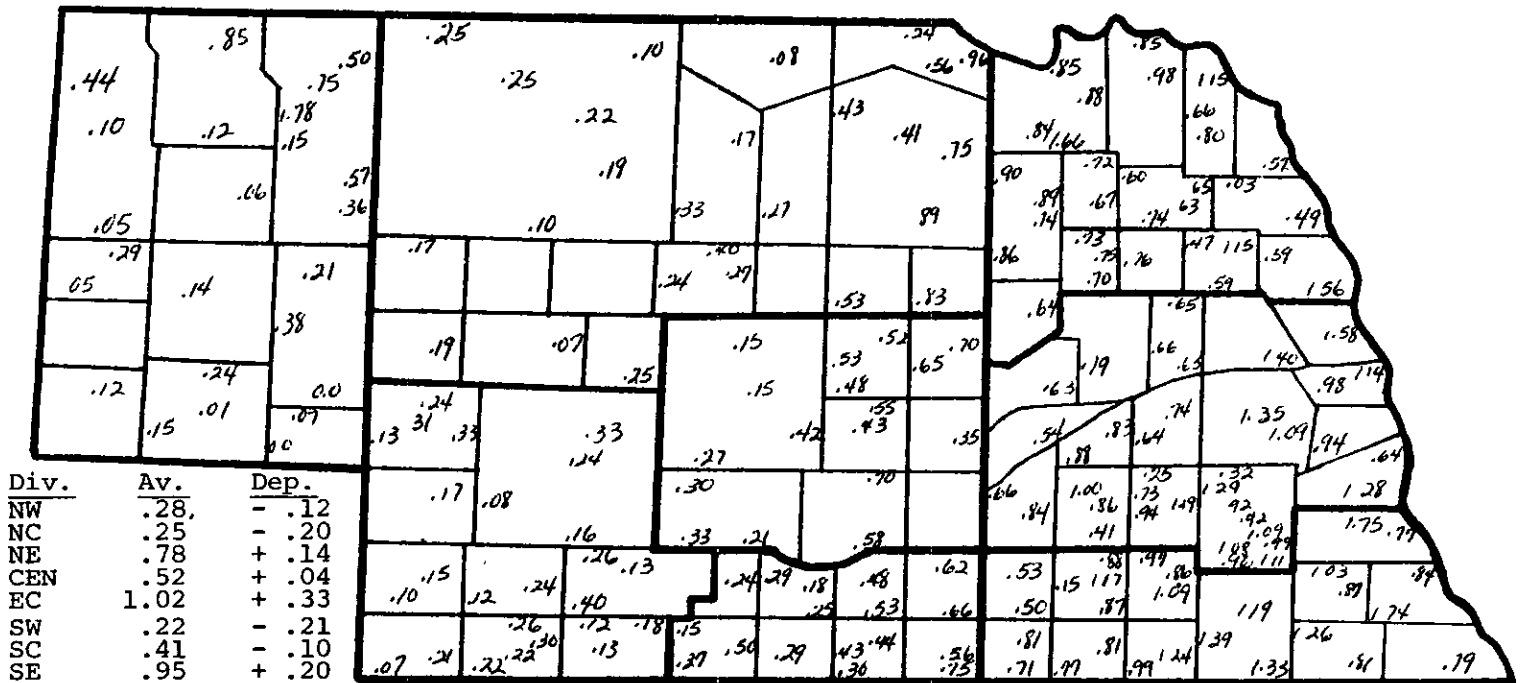
February's dry, mild conditions have been excellent for livestock in western and north central counties. Eastern and central counties have experienced excessive mud in feedlots resulting in some livestock losses and reduced gains. Feed grain supplies were reported as tight in some eastern counties, while hay and forage usage have been reduced due to mild winter conditions. About one-third of the corn and sorghum stubble ground was being pastured last week. Early calving was progressing favorably. Lambing season was also progressing favorably.

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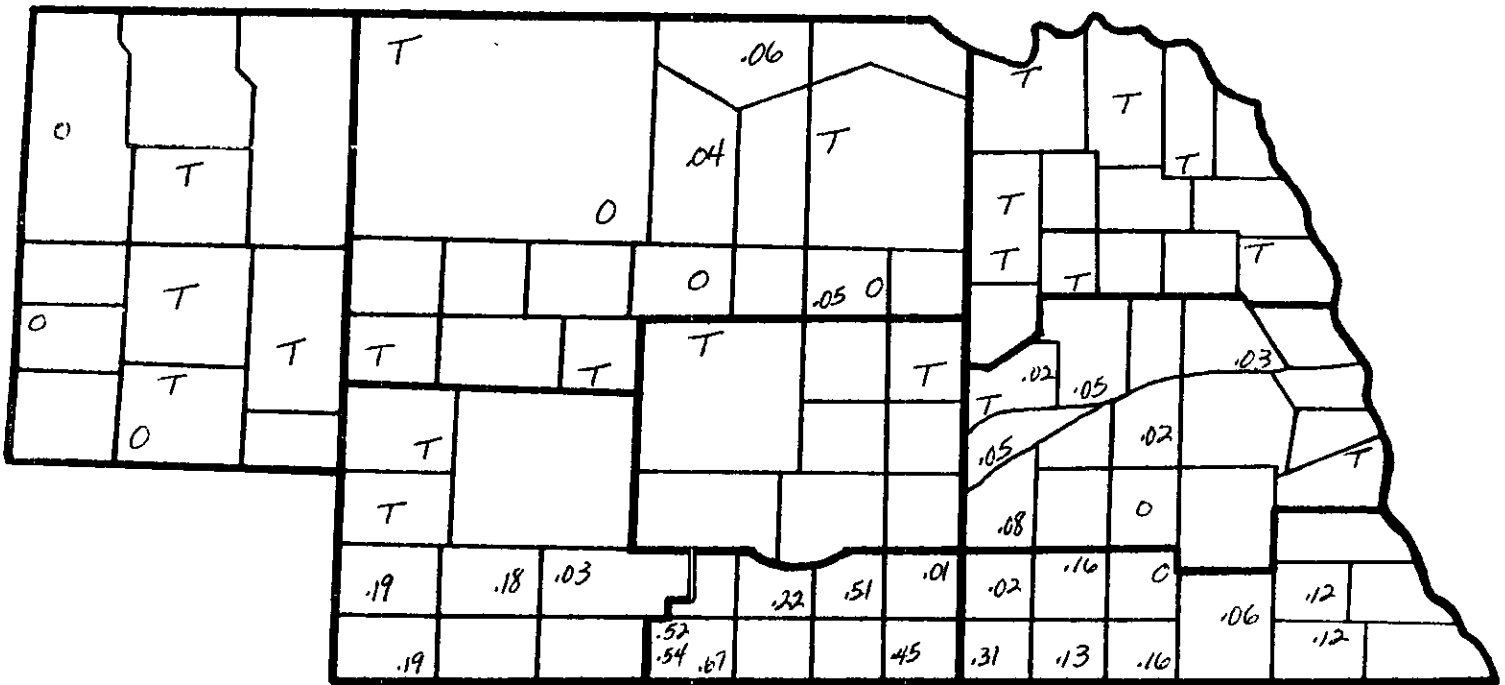
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF JANUARY 1983 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Center for Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1983



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1983

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	68	25	44	--	0
Scottsbluff	63	18	42	+10	0
Sidney	--	--	--	--	--
NC Ord	61	24	37	--	0
Valentine	60	21	41	+15	T
NE Norfolk	56	28	38	+11	T
Sioux City	56	27	36	+10	.01
CEN Grand Island	61	25	39	+ 9	T
EC Lincoln	59	28	41	+12	.02
Omaha	56	26	38	+10	.04
SW Imperial	--	--	--	--	--
North Platte	62	27	40	+10	T

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.